

15th March 1922]

[Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi]

stead a man of true faith in us, one who believes in the people of India. However that may be, if we the people of India, believe in ourselves as much as Mr. Montagu did, and will have the same courage and the same perseverance, I am sure in spite of this lamentable event, our onward march could not be thwarted or impeded by any power on earth."

The motion was put to the House and carried unanimously.

Diwan Bahadur R. VENKATARATNAM NAYUDU :—“ Mr. President, I crave leave to move and to request on behalf of the House that you, as our universally respected President, will be pleased to communicate the resolution, which has been now adopted in such warm and grateful spirit by the whole House, to the esteemed gentleman whose retirement from his exalted office we all so sincerely deplore, and to his successor, the Secretary of State, to His Excellency the Viceroy and to the Government of India.

“ Sir, if I may be permitted to say just one word in this connection, I shall say this. At the dinner given in his honour when he was on leave between relinquishing the Governorship of Bombay and assuming the reins of office here, His Excellency our present Governor stated as the reason for his coming to Madras, that there was a Montagu that shaped his ends. (Cheers). May I, Sir, be permitted to trace back that quotation to its origin and say, there is a divinity that assigned a Montagu to shape the ‘ ends ’ of India. Sir, I am a believer in the poet’s vision that ‘ through the ages one increasing purpose runs ’, and in that purpose to me the master note is, as the same poet has said, that union when East and West will with one breath mingle their life and light into a broader and brighter day for whole humanity. Hence to me, Sir, it is a point of faith that providence has designed to employ in this glorious work of thus leading East and West to mingle their life and light, one of the remarkable race which through the vicissitudes of centuries, traces its inspiration to that holy land which is on the border line between East and West. Therefore, I hold it was in the fitness of things that Mr. Montagu should have been chosen to lay the foundation stone of the grand holy place where East and West will in due course meet to worship. (Hear, hear). With these words, Sir, I once again crave, on behalf of the House, your services in communicating this resolution to the authorities concerned.”

The motion was put to the House and carried.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I shall do it with pleasure.”

III

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS FOR 1921-22.

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—“ May I move, Sir, for an adjournment of the whole of these demands till the close of the budget debate in order to enable the Finance Committee to examine them beforehand ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD HABIB-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur :—“ I second it.”

The motion was put and agreed to.

[15th March 1922]

IV

A BILL TO AMEND THE COURT FEES ACT, 1870.

The hon. Mr. K. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"Mr. President, I have gone through the various amendments since yesterday. I think in a few cases the language requires alteration and I have so altered it. I have got a copy of the alterations here."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"If there are a number of changes which the hon. the Law Member now proposes to bring forward, I think in fairness to the House I should circulate them first. I think the best course will be for this motion to be formally adjourned till we have done with the hon. Mr. Habib-ul-lah's Bill (the Stamp Bill) and in the meantime I will have copies of the changes typed and put into the hands of hon. Members so that they may be able to follow them easily."

The hon. Mr. K. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"I am very thankful to you, Sir. I move that this subject may be taken up after the Bill to amend the Stamp Act is disposed of."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD HABIB-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur:—"I second it."

The motion was put and agreed to.

V

A BILL TO AMEND THE INDIAN STAMP ACT, 1899.

SCHEDULE I-A, ARTICLE 20.

Amendment 18.

Rao Bahadur A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu did not move the following amendment and it was therefore deemed to have been withdrawn:—

18. Under the head 'Proper stamp duty' substitute the words 'ten annas' and 'one rupee four annas' for the words 'twelve annas' and 'one rupee eight annas', respectively.

SCHEDULE I-A, ARTICLE 25.

Amendment 19.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, I beg leave to move the amendment standing against my name. It reads as follows:—

19. (i) In column 2 against clause (a) for the words 'seven hundred and fifty rupees' substitute the words 'five hundred rupees'.

(ii) In the same column against clause (b) for the words 'three hundred and seventy-five rupees' substitute 'two hundred and fifty rupees'.

"In commanding it for the acceptance of the House I wish to emphasise the fact that most of those who take to education and even to higher education are people drawn from the middle classes. They find education rather a costly affair. The two years' course in the Law College with the heavy fees and the subsequent year's course as an apprentice are all very costly. As a matter of fact, out of the hundreds of graduates turned out of the Law College, comparatively a small number only undergo the apprentice course, and I think the effect of this enhancement would result in still further reducing the number of students who will take to this apprentice course. I